

# **Exhibit 6**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

----- X

IN RE SEPTEMBER 11TH PROPERTY DAMAGE  
AND BUSINESS LOSS LITIGATION

Civil No.  
21 MC 101 (AKH)

----- X

----- X

IN RE SEPTEMBER 11TH LITIGATION

Civil No.  
21 MC 97 (AKH)

----- X

STATE OF NEW YORK     )  
                                  ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK    )

DESMOND T. BARRY, JR., being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am an attorney admitted to practice before this Court and a member of the law firm of Condon & Forsyth LLP. I serve as Aviation Defendants' Liaison Counsel in the above-captioned actions. I make this Affidavit in connection with the Aviation Defendants' request to depose Erik T. Rigler, former Special Agent with the FBI, in accordance with 28 C.F.R. § 16.21 *et seq.*

2. The above-captioned lawsuits seek to impose billions of dollars in liability against the Aviation Defendants for their alleged failure to detect and halt the terrorists who attacked the United States on September 11. The Aviation Defendants are being sued by approximately six dozen personal injury and wrongful death claimants for injuries and fatalities that resulted from the hijackings of four flights on that morning by

members of al-Qaeda. Numerous property damage and business loss plaintiffs have also brought claims for billions of dollars in damages against the Aviation Defendants for the destruction of real property and business interruption caused by the terrorist attacks.

3. Both sets of plaintiffs have brought claims for negligence, and their suits center around the same two core issues: what the Aviation Defendants knew or should have known before September 11 regarding the terrorist threat that al-Qaeda and Usama Bin Laden posed to domestic civil aviation; and what countermeasures the Aviation Defendants could or should have taken in response to that threat. Specifically, plaintiffs allege that the Aviation Defendants did not design or take appropriate countermeasures to guard against terrorist attacks by al-Qaeda or Usama Bin Laden in response to the available intelligence. Plaintiffs also allege that the Aviation Defendants failed to comply with applicable federal aviation regulations and failed to institute countermeasures that went beyond those required by the regulations, to the extent that such additional measures were necessary to meet their supposed duties under common law.

4. In light of plaintiffs' allegations, evidence regarding the intelligence available before September 11 to the FBI, the CIA, the FAA and the airlines regarding the terrorists' intent, likely means of attack, and capabilities, as well as the uses to which that intelligence was put and with whom that intelligence was shared is critical to the Aviation Defendants' defense.

5. Together, the FBI and the CIA are the federal agencies tasked with collecting intelligence on possible terrorist attacks against the United States. Their responsibilities before September 11 included collecting intelligence regarding the threat of attacks against civil aviation by al-Qaeda or Usama Bin Laden. As part of its mandate, the FBI also decided which specific intelligence regarding the potential threat should be communicated to the FAA and, in turn, the airlines, including the Aviation Defendants. The intelligence that the FBI and the FAA communicated to the airlines was the Aviation Defendants' primary source of information regarding the threat of terrorist attacks on civil aviation. Therefore, evidence as to the specific intelligence the FBI recommended be shared with the airlines regarding possible terrorist attacks by al-Qaeda or Usama Bin Laden is vital to the Aviation Defendants' defense of the allegation that they were negligent in failing to prevent the attacks on September 11.

6. The FBI also participated in the process of determining when new countermeasures were necessary to protect the public, because the FAA received much of its intelligence concerning the terrorist threat to domestic civil aviation from the FBI. The FBI evaluated whether its intelligence indicated that the threat of terrorist attacks had materially increased such that the information should be shared with other federal agencies, including the FAA. The FAA then directed the airlines to implement whatever new or amended security procedures it determined were appropriate to guard against the heightened threat. The intelligence the FBI communicated to the FAA was thus an

important basis of any new security protocols that the FAA required -- or elected not to require -- the airlines to follow in the months preceding September 11, 2001.

7. The measures that the FBI recommended as appropriate responses to the intelligence it had regarding the terrorist threat are also important to the Aviation Defendants' defense. As one of the two key intelligence gathering agencies of the federal government, the FBI had far more and far more specific information regarding al-Qaeda and Usama Bin Laden's intentions to commit attacks against the United States and their likely means of attack than did the Aviation Defendants. Plaintiffs contend that the Aviation Defendants should have revised their security procedures in light of an escalating threat of terrorist attacks. However, the Aviation Defendants anticipate that the evidence will show that the federal government, armed with far more detailed information as to the activities of al-Qaeda and Usama Bin Laden, made the decision not to change the countermeasures it had in place -- nor did it recommend or require that the airlines adjust their security procedures. The measures that the FBI determined that it should take in response to the intelligence it had available to it, sheds light on whether the Aviation Defendants acted reasonably in response to the more limited intelligence that they had available to them.

8. Mr. Rigler is well qualified to testify to these material issues. Before retiring, Mr. Rigler served as a Special Agent with the FBI for 23 years and many of his duties pertained to aviation matters. He holds an airline transport pilot rating and has spent approximately 5,000 hours piloting FBI aircraft. As a result, Mr. Rigler has expert

knowledge as to both the FBI and aviation. Indeed, he testified as an expert witness for the defendant in *U.S. v. Moussaoui*, No. 01-455A (LMB) (E.D.Va), in a proceeding open to the public. Mr. Rigler has testified regarding the FBI's handling of intelligence before September 11, including the agency's response to intelligence regarding two of the terrorists who carried out the attacks of September 11, Khalid al-Midhar and Nawaf al-Hazmi. As a result, Mr. Rigler has particularized knowledge of al-Qaeda's intent as of September 11 to carry out a terrorist attack against the United States, as well as the terrorists' capabilities and likely means of attack.

9. One of the Aviation Defendants' main defenses in this action is that the fanatical terrorists who intentionally carried out the well-planned and highly coordinated attacks of September 11 are responsible for the injuries and damages caused by their attacks. The Aviation Defendants expect that the deposition testimony of Mr. Rigler will establish or tend to establish the following points in support of their defense. First, with careful study of the civil aviation system, the terrorists formulated a hijacking plot that was intended to minimize the chance that they would be detected. Indeed, their plan was specifically designed to permit them to circumvent the multilayered system of aviation security that was in place before September 11. Second, the terrorists worked around the security measures that were in place – for instance, by selecting items that were permitted inside the sterile areas of airports and airplane cabins to use in the attacks. As a result, the success of their plot was not dependent on whether the Aviation Defendants failed to fulfill their responsibilities under the aviation security system mandated by the FAA.

10. The Aviation Defendants also anticipate that Mr. Rigler's testimony will support or tend to support another of their defenses in these litigations: namely, that as private entities, they did not have the same access to intelligence information regarding the terrorist threat as the federal government. The Aviation Defendants anticipate that Mr. Rigler will testify that the FBI had information before September 11, which indicated that potential terrorists, such as Khalid al-Midhar and Nawaf al-Hazmi, were present in the United States. The Aviation Defendants also expect that Mr. Rigler will testify that the intelligence gathered during the investigation into Mr. Midhar and Mr. Hazmi before September 11 was not communicated to the FAA or the airlines. The Aviation Defendants further expect that Mr. Rigler will testify regarding what, if any, recommendations the FBI made to the FAA or the airlines, before September 11, based on its investigation into the two men. Evidence as to all of these points is important to the determination of whether the Aviation Defendants acted negligently in failing to prevent the September 11 attacks.

11. The topics upon which the Aviation Defendants would depose Mr. Rigler include:

- a. The respective roles and responsibilities of the CIA, the FBI, the FAA and the Aviation Defendants in assessing terrorist threats against civil aviation and devising countermeasures.
- b. The information available to the FBI and the CIA before September 11, 2001 regarding the likelihood of an attack by al-Qaeda and/or Usama Bin Laden, including any information regarding the anticipated form of such an attack, its likely location, and any countermeasures recommended by the FBI.

- c. Whether the FBI had information before September 11, 2001 indicating that a terrorist attack would likely target civil aviation, would take place within the United States, and would involve the use of hijacked aircraft as weapons against ground targets.
- d. Whether the intelligence the FBI had before September 11, 2001 was actionable, including any countermeasures that the FBI could have adopted in response to the intelligence.
- e. Whether the FBI recommended any changes in aviation security in response to information that it received before September 11, 2001 regarding the threat of an al-Qaeda attack and, if so, what those changes were.
- f. The communications, if any, between the FBI and the FAA and/or any defendant before September 11, 2001 regarding the possibility of an al-Qaeda attack on civil aviation.
- g. The information that the FBI had before September 11, 2001 regarding any of the 19 hijackers who took part in the September 11 terrorist attacks, including whether any of that information was actionable and whether any of that information was shared with the FAA and/or any Aviation Defendant.
- h. The information that the FBI had before September 11, 2001 regarding Khalid al-Midhar, including his contact with Nawaf al-Hazmi; any connection between Khalid al-Midhar and al-Qaeda; the likelihood that Khalid al-Midhar had participated in or planned to participate in any terrorist attacks; and whether that information was shared with the FAA and/or any Aviation Defendant.
- i. The information that the FBI had before September 11, 2001, regarding Khalid al-Midhar's entry into the United States in or around July 2001, including that there was no record of his departure and whether this information was shared with the FAA and/or any Aviation Defendant.
- j. The information that the FBI had before September 11, 2001 regarding Nawaf al-Hazmi, including his contact with Khalid al-Midhar; any connection between Nawaf al-Hazmi and al-

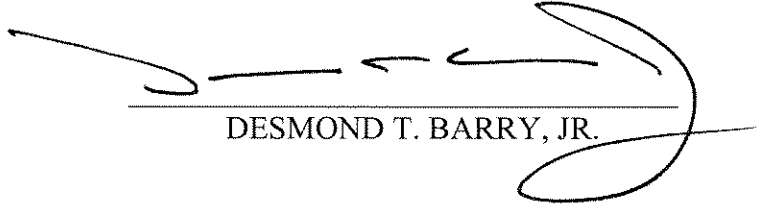


Qaeda; the likelihood that Nawaf al-Hazmi had participated in or planned to participate in any terrorist attacks; and whether that information was shared with the FAA and/or any Aviation Defendant.

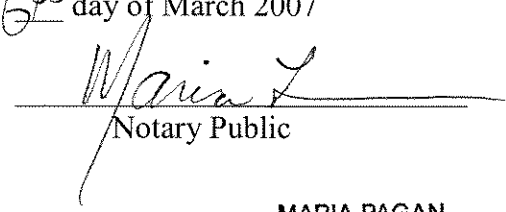
- k. The FBI's role in designating individuals for a "no fly" list, the criteria for designating an individual as "no fly," the scope of any such list that existed on September 11, 2001 and whether and how such a list or any terrorist watch-list was communicated to the FAA and/or any Aviation Defendant.
- l. The communications, if any, between the FBI and the CIA before September 11, 2001 regarding the memo produced by the FBI's Phoenix field office regarding the presence of young Arab males in flight school.
- m. The communications, if any, between the FBI and the FAA and/or any defendant before September 11, 2001 regarding the memo produced by the FBI's Phoenix field office regarding the presence of young Arab males in flight school.

12. The Aviation Defendants submit that Mr. Rigler's testimony is clearly appropriate when all of the factors listed in 28 C.F.R. § 16.26 are taken into consideration. Given that Mr. Rigler has already testified publicly regarding the matters at issue, the FBI has already concluded that disclosure would not infringe an applicable privilege, violate a statute or regulation, reveal classified information, reveal a confidential source or informant, reveal investigative records or interfere with enforcement proceedings, or improperly reveal trade secrets. Moreover, the significance of the liability sought to be imposed, the national gravity of the underlying events, and the importance of the legal issues presented all militate in favor of Mr. Rigler's testimony.

13. By contrast, a refusal to permit Mr. Rigler's deposition would deprive the Aviation Defendants of evidence that is important to its defense of the very serious allegations that have been made against them in this important civil litigation. The Aviation Defendants are defending against allegations that they were responsible for gathering and assessing information regarding the threat of a terrorist attack and for designing appropriate countermeasures. The Aviation Defendants contend that their role was limited to implementing the security measures mandated by the FAA based on threat assessments made by the FAA and the federal intelligence community, including the FBI. *See, e.g., Domestic Air Transportation System Security Act, 49 U.S.C. § 44904(a) (1994) ("The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation jointly shall assess current and potential threats to the domestic air transportation system.").*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DESMOND T. BARRY, JR.

Sworn to before me this  
6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2007

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

MARIA PAGAN  
Notary Public, State of New York  
No. 01PA4670337  
Qualified in Queens County  
Commission Expires 10/31/2010